

1 ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

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3 Computer readable media and methods are associated with a software development  
4 tool that is useful when authoring programs that generate documents, such as markup  
5 language documents. In one respect, the invention is a computer readable medium on which  
6 is embedded computer software. The software comprises a base class, an inline class and a  
7 container class. The base class defines a parent-child relationship by which a child object is  
8 stored within the storage space of its parent object. The inline class is an extension of the  
9 base class, wherein a member of the inline class is permitted to be a child object but  
10 prohibited from being a parent object. The container class is an extension of the base class,  
11 wherein a member of the container class is permitted to be a child object and/or a parent  
12 object. A well-formed document can be modeled in software using members of the inline  
13 and/or container classes. In another respect, the invention is a method of using the a set of  
14 classes to develop a document-producing program. The set of classes comprises the base  
15 class, inline class and container class. In yet another respect, the invention is a document-  
16 producing program produced by the preceding method.